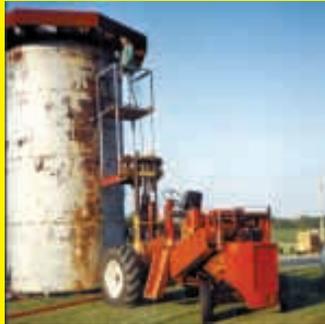


Reader Letters



Thanks for your article in the last issue on our kits for converting a pickup into a "dually". Unfortunately, there was a mixup on the price. A basic Dodge kit actually sells for \$683. High end kits with aluminum wheels are \$1,652. (**Carol Riker, Arrowcraft Products, 5022 Leafdale Blvd., Royal Oak, Mich. 48073 ph 248 280-0210; www.arrowcraft.com**)



Thanks for your article on our Lutec 1000 electricity generator in the last issue of FARM SHOW. Our mailbox has been overloaded with thousands of requests for more information. Unfortunately, we are a small operation and can't afford at this time to respond to all these letters individually. So we hope you will publish this letter from us to those readers who contacted us.

The Lutec 1000 will not be available for purchase in the U.S. or anywhere else for at least 18 months. We are working with a U.S. company which will manufacture and distribute the product once they are satisfied that our prototype meets their performance standards. We cannot reveal the name of the company at this time.

Many readers asked if they could invest in our company or in the U.S. manufacturer. The answer is no. Private funds will be used to develop and market the product.

We are forwarding all inquiries to our U.S. partner. More information will be sent to all interested parties as soon as it is available. (**John Christie, Lutec 1000, Box 2288, Cairns, Queensland 4870 Australia; email: info@lutec.com.au; website: www.lutec.com.au**)

In the last issue of FARM SHOW, you featured an article on our Mini Dog Carts. In the article, you have the following passage: "Also, your dog doesn't get knocked over sideways if the cart turns over."



Unfortunately, this is not what I said when interviewed. What I actually said was that if the cart goes over rough ground or takes a sharp turn, the dog would not get knocked around like he would in a dual shafted cart. I never said the cart could ever be turned over. It actually cannot be flipped on its side. It's one of its key safety features. However, I did say that other carts with dual shafts can be flipped over sideways, along with the dog - if it's harnessed within the dual shafts.

The rest of the article was fine. Thanks for letting us show the carts to your readers. (**Darlette Ratschan, Santa Clarita, Calif.; For info on the carts, check out: www.rjwalsh.com.au/mini**)

I recently converted an old 1963 IH 303 combine into a multiple purpose rig that can be used either as a forklift, man lift, or crane with a reach of 33 ft.

To convert the combine, I first shortened the wheelbase by 2 1/2 ft. and then lowered the control platform 2 ft. I bought the forklift, which had been junked out, from my employer. I used 3 by 6 rectangular tubing to make a new frame and then welded a 3/4-in. thick

steel plate to the front part of the combine that supports the mast. The entire mast can be hydraulically shifted 10 in. left or right. (**Mark Friebe, 4149 Wareham Rd., Shelby, Ohio 44875 ph 419 347-6464**)

I love cats but unfortunately I have allergies, and odors from the cat's litter box caused me a lot of problems. So I made an exhaust system in our basement that vents the odors outside the house. A plastic storage box is used to cover the litter box. Flexible metal ductwork runs from a hole cut into the top of the box up and outside the house through



a vent installed next to the clothes dryer vent. An in-line electric fan mounts inside the ductwork and is activated by a motion detector on top of the box. The fan connects to a 20-minute timer. The cat enters the box through a hole in one side, which starts up the fan. It stays on for 20 minutes.

Before I installed this system I couldn't even go in the basement without sneezing. Now it's not a problem at all. (**Joe Hinger, 13772 Glazier Ct., Apple Valley, Minn. 55124 ph 952 953-0347**)

I have three miles of electric fence strung around my pasture. Rolling up that much fence by hand was a lot of work, so I



made my own electric fence winder that mounts on front of my Deere 112 garden tractor. The tractor's engine belt-drives a shaft which chain-drives a reel that rolls up the fence. The entire unit mounts on a bracket with a single pin. Operating the unit requires two people - one to drive the tractor and the other to guide the wire onto the reel. (**Truman Jingst, 408 Shelby 177, Ewing, Mo. 63440 ph 660 278-4683; email: tejingst@marktwain.net**)

My sons and I built this loader-mounted scaffold after a tornado hit our area two years ago. We've used it to repair buildings and to install a steel ceiling and side walls in our new 60 by 80-ft. shop. We also use it to prune trees.



The platform stands about 9 ft. above the loader bucket and measures 10 1/2 by 3 ft. 1 in. The entire structure is made from used 2 by 8 lumber, angle iron, pipe and silo rods. The unit attaches to the bucket with five bolts and can be easily removed for storage. A safety railing around the top can be removed by lifting four pins at the corners. (**Jim Feldman, 10993 Stanton Blvd., Northfield, Minn. 55057 ph 507 645-8771**)



I'm 12 years old and would like to tell you about what I call my Crystalax bar, a 5-ft. long tool that's used to tip over barrels loaded with nutrients that we feed to our cows. The barrels weigh about 250 lbs. apiece so tipping them over by hand isn't an easy job. The tool works somewhat like a pry bar but has a hook on one side about 16 in. from the bottom. To use the bar I simply place the hook over the edge of the barrel and then pull back on it. (**Cody W. Groenewold, 155 Sears Road, Newcastle, Wyoming 82701**)

Here's a low-cost way to protect garden plants from frost. It adds a couple of weeks to each end of the growing season. Simply place straw or hay bales in a rectangle and plant in the opening between the bales. Then put old window glass or clear plastic over the top. On warm days you can remove a couple of panes to let air circulate. The bales can be removed as soon as the danger of frost has passed. When fall arrives, you can put the bales back. I've used this idea with tomatoes for more than 15 years, and it works great. (**George Kiddoo, Box 80, 411 West 4th Ave., Sprague, Wash. 9903**)

I converted an old 10,000-volt electric transformer into a 3-pt. mounted, hydraulic-operated cement mixer. I got the transformer free from the power



company where I work. I cut it up to make a drum and then mounted a ball fin inside it that I made out of an old grinder. An orbit motor is used to chain-drive a rubber

wheel that rotates the drum. The entire unit mounts on a homemade steel pipe frame. A pair of hydraulic cylinders are used to tilt the mixer up or down in order to dump the material.

It really works nice for small jobs. I can raise the transformer over a building's foundation and also rotate the mixer at the same time. I've used it to pour a basement floor and also a feeding floor for our hog building. (**Duane Wright, 46577 232nd St., Wentworth, S. Dak. 57075 ph 605 483-3461**)

I converted an electric-operated cement mixer to a pto-driven model that I use with my Allis-Chalmers CA tractor. The mixer mounts on a pallet and is belt-driven off



a pto driveline that runs under the mixer. The driveline has a pulley at one end. If I want I can mix cement on the way to the job, just like a cement mixing truck does. It comes in handy for pouring cement around posts when building fences. When unloading, the cement falls onto a piece of tin roofing mounted at an angle on one side of the pallet. It saves a lot of wheelbarrow work.

I converted an oxygen tank into a 12-in. dia., 18-in. long bell that I gave to my wife, Virginia, last year on Valentine's Day. It's painted white with big red hearts on it and hangs from our front porch. I got the tank free from a company that refills oxygen tanks.



I used a bandsaw to cut off part of the tank and a stainless steel rod with an electric welder to write my wife's name on the tank, and then I used a hand grinder to round off the letters. A pin out of an 844 cu. in. diesel engine serves as the clapper inside the bell. It locks onto a chain that's attached to a bolt at the top of the tank. A leather strap hangs down out of the bell in order to ring it. It makes a sound much like a church bell. My wife loves it. (**Robert Gibson, 29176 S. Barlow Rd., Canby, Oregon 97013 ph 503 651-2800**)

We had been using a 2-WD pickup to pull a gooseneck trailer loaded with 8 or 10 round bales. The problem was that on



soft ground the pickup didn't have enough traction. To solve the problem, I built this fifth wheel hitch dolly that lets me use my tractor to pull the trailer. I bolted a ball onto a big steel plate and then welded the plate onto a truck axle, which is equipped with dual wheels. (**Steve Devaney, 7312 County Road 454, Merkel, Texas 79536 ph 915 537-2303**)

I converted the chassis and tandem axles and wheels off a Versatile 480 sprayer

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